Mr. Vernon A. Williams, Secretary Surface Transportation Board Office of the Secretary Case Control Unit Attn: STB Ex Parte No. 582 1925 K. Street, N.W. Washington, D.C. 20423-0001



Dear Sir,

Kruger Inc. is a Pulp and Paper company that is a major user of rail service in the U.S. and Canada. Please find below our comments on the issues to be discussed on March 8, 2000 in Ex Parte 582.

We are kindly asking the Surface Transportation Board to concentrate on whether the proposed CN-BNSF combination is good for shippers or not.

In reference to some recent mergers that have failed on service, our main concern, rather than the timing of the CN-BNSF combination, is service. This combination should be judged on its qualities and we encourage the Surface Transportation Board on ensuring that this merger, and any other future ones, will provide good service for the shippers.

The Surface Transportation Board should deliberate on the CN-BNSF combination according to its process that evaluates railroad transactions and protects the public interest. Thank you to not let other railroads use this comprehensive procedure to protect themselves more than the shippers.

I thank you for your anticipated support in this issue.

Yours Sincerely,

Jacques Rancourt

Corporate Director Transportation

Kruger Inc.

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